

This Week's News

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday October 26th, 2025

Next IRTS Committee Meeting

The next IRTS Committee meeting will be an in-person meeting taking place on Saturday, November 22nd at 11:00 a.m. sharp in the Creggan Court Hotel, Kilmartin N6 Centre, Dublin Road, Athlone, Co. Westmeath. The Eircode is N37 YW25. All IRTS affiliated clubs are reminded that under Rule 16.1, the members in each affiliated club, society or other body may elect a representative and an alternate annually to attend IRTS Committee meetings both in-person and online. Clubs wishing to send a representative should notify the IRTS Secretary, Andy EI7IOB at [irts_secretary /at/ irts.ie](mailto:irts_secretary@irts.ie)

Seeking IRTS HF News Readers

The IRTS is seeking additional HF newsreaders to join our current panel of news readers for the weekly Sunday morning 40m and 80m IRTS news bulletins. If any licensed IRTS member living in EI feels like that they would be interested in becoming part of the IRTS newsreaders panel or if you require more information, please get in touch with the IRTS news team via email to [newsteam /at/ irts.ie](mailto:newsteam@irts.ie)

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group EI2WRC

The next physical meeting of the EI2WRC group will take place on Monday, November 24th at 8 p.m. sharp at the South East Technological University, Netlabs Research and Innovation Building, SETU West Campus, Carriganore, Waterford. The Eircode is X91 WR86. New members or anyone that has an interest in amateur radio or communications in general are very welcome to come along. SWLs are in particular very welcome to attend also. For more information about EI2WRC, their activities, and for contact details please see www.searg.ie

South Dublin Radio Club "My Shack" Night

South Dublin Radio Club will host a "My Shack" night on Tuesday, 28th October, from 19:30 to 21:30 local time, where selected members will give short talks about their home QTH stations and how they went about constructing them. This theme follows feedback from visitors to their display at Dublin Maker, where many expressed an interest in amateur radio but were seeking guidance on operating from limited spaces, such as apartments. The evening aims to encourage and support those interested in getting started in the hobby, regardless of their location. The evening will also include a short talk on how to get started as a radio hobbyist or shortwave listener, with practical advice on setting up a simple receiving station.

The club already has several speakers confirmed. However, SDRC is seeking additional amateur radio operators with experience setting up stations in small properties or apartments. This is ideal for anyone considering the journey towards obtaining a radio licence or simply wishing to explore the radio spectrum for enjoyment. Anyone interested in contributing as a speaker is asked to please contact the SDRC committee at [southdublinradioclub /at/ gmail.com](mailto:southdublinradioclub@gmail.com) or via X (previously known as Twitter) or Facebook.

VHF/Microwave News

Round 11 of the European FT8 activity series starts on the 2m band on Wednesday November 5th. FT8 and FT4 digital modes are used. The activity is useful to increase the possibility of working new DXCC or squares or make use of short-lived propagation conditions.

Originally introduced in the 1980s and 1990s, packet radio activity among amateur operators within Ireland and neighbouring countries is enjoying a resurgence of interest. New stations known as nodes are joining the growing network in Ireland creating a data and communications network that does not rely on the conventional internet. The activity is centred on 144.950MHz. If interested in learning more and perhaps getting involved, feel free to contact the IRTS VHF/microwave team at vhf_manager@irts.ie

Contest Updates

Well done to all those that took part in the IRTS 80m counties contest last week. Please note that the deadline for logs is November 5th.

The results of the IRTS 2m and 70cm Autumn Counties contest have been published on the IRTS website. Congratulations to the winners in each category and to all that participated. You can find the results at irts.ie/contests

In partnership with the IRTS, RSGB, and GMDX groups, the UKEICC is running two contests this week. The 80m CW contest is on Wednesday, the 29th of October at 20:00 UTC and the UK/EI DX SSB contest is on Saturday and Sunday, the 1st and 2nd of November.

The 80m CW contest on Wednesday runs for one hour and features the popular bonus stations, which earns you 15 points each if you work them. Joe EI7GY will operate the Irish bonus station EI5G, and Stew GW0ETF will operate the UK station GW5GEI. Log submission is within one hour of the contest end, and results are published that same night shortly after 22:00 UTC.

The UK/EI DX SSB contest begins on Saturday, the 1st of November at 12:00 UTC and finishes at 11:59 UTC on the Sunday. It covers the HF contest bands from 80m to 10m, with points awarded for 80m and 40m contacts at double the amount earned on other bands. This is an "everyone works everyone" contest, but EI and UK stations are especially popular since all EI counties and UK districts count as multipliers. The log submission deadline is 24 hours after the contest ends. This short deadline always surprises a few entrants, but it allows provisional results to be published the day after contest end, which is much better than waiting weeks to know how you've done. You are invited to come join the fun. EI and GI stations are especially welcome.

Items for Inclusion in Next Week's Radio News

That is the news for this week. Thanks to everyone for sending items into the weekly IRTS radio news. They are very much appreciated and are a great way to update the rest of the community about activities. If you have any club events, activities, meetings, or other items of interest, you are very welcome to email newsteam@irts.ie with the details. These will be automatically forwarded to the IRTS radio and printed news services. The deadline each week is midnight on Thursdays.

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